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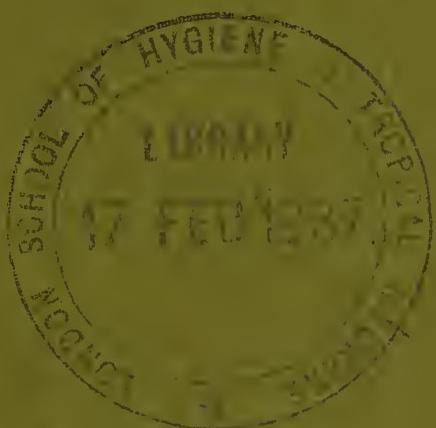
No. 1757

Annual Report on the Social and Economic
Progress of the People of

SIERRA LEONE, 1935

(For Reports for 1933 and 1934 see Nos. 1678 and 1744
respectively (Price 2s. od. each).)

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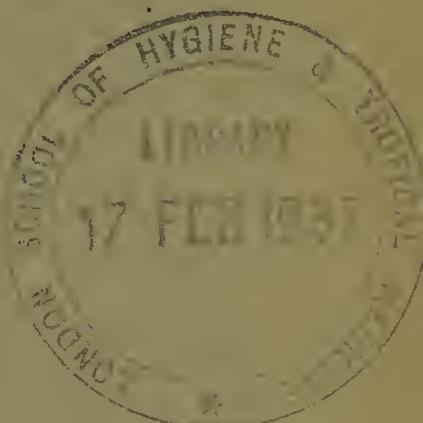
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA LEONE, 1935

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The territory comprising the Colony and Protectorate of Sierra Leone is about the size of Ireland (27,925 square miles) and lies between the $6^{\circ} 55'$ and $10^{\circ} 00'$ parallels of north latitude and the $10^{\circ} 16'$ and $13^{\circ} 18'$ meridians of west longitude. The portions administered strictly as Colony are the Sierra Leone Peninsula, Tasso Island, the Banana Islands, York Island, and the township of Bonthe on Sherbro Island. The total area amounts to some 256 square miles.

Freetown, the capital, is situated at the northern extremity of the Peninsula on a fine natural harbour which affords good anchorages close to the shore for the largest ships. The greater portion of the Peninsula is mountainous and well wooded, the conical peaks, of which the highest is Picket Hill (2,912 feet), being visible for great distances at certain seasons of the year.

The Protectorate (27,669 square miles) is well watered by a network of rivers and streams, the general direction of flow being from north-east to south-west. Most of the rivers have wide

estuaries; and, although none of them is navigable for ocean-going steamers, several of them provide useful waterways for lesser craft, particularly during the wet season.

If the mountainous peninsula be excepted, the Colony and Protectorate as a whole may be described generally as being flat and low-lying in the south and west and broken and elevated in the north and east, where altitudes of over 6,000 feet have been recorded in the Loma and Tingi mountains. The nature of the vegetation varies considerably. South of the $8^{\circ} 30'$ parallel of north latitude dense bush country (originally tropical forest) is as a rule encountered; but this gives place as one travels northwards to more open or "orchard bush" country.

Climate.

The seasons may be divided into wet and dry, the former commencing in May and lasting until October. The rains are as a rule ushered in during the latter part of March and April by a series of tornadoes. Similar phenomena, though as a rule of a less violent nature, are experienced towards the end of the wet season. The dry north-easterly "Harmattan" wind usually blows at intervals during the December—February period, visibility being thereby greatly restricted owing to the fine dust which it is believed the Harmattan carries down with it from the Sahara. During this period hot days and cool nights are the rule.

The shade temperature at Freetown varies during the year from about 65° to 95° Fahrenheit. The average minimum and maximum may be placed at 74° and 87° respectively.

The average annual rainfall at Freetown over a forty-year period amounted to 152 inches. This figure is based on observations made at Tower Hill at a point some 200 feet above sea-level. July and August are as a rule the wettest months.

History.

Sierra Leone, which has been known to voyagers and historians for many centuries, first became a British settlement in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The settlement was established, at the instance of a Society for the Abolition of Slavery from which sprang the Sierra Leone Company, in order to make provision for a large number of slaves who had found their way to England after the American War of 1782, and also for such slaves as might be recaptured by British ships operating against the slavers. A strip of land was acquired on the north of the Sierra Leone Peninsula, and on this site the first colonists were landed in May 1787. These were augmented in 1792 by a large party of Africans (freed slaves who had fought for the English in the American War of Independence) from Nova Scotia. Later,

in 1800, about 550 Maroons—originally slaves who fled from their masters in Jamaica and on surrender were conveyed to Nova Scotia—were brought to Sierra Leone, and allotted lands. Similar treatment was subsequently accorded to the “Liberated Africans” who were captured slaves brought in by His Majesty’s ships.

For the first few years of its existence the Colony suffered many hardships and privations through famine and disease, and was attacked three times from land by the Temnes and once from the sea by a French squadron.

On 1st January 1808, the settlement became a Crown Colony.

Chiefly owing to slave-dealing by native chiefs and European adventurers in the neighbourhood of Freetown, the English settlement soon found it necessary to intervene in the affairs of the hinterland, and from time to time various treaties were made with the surrounding chiefs by which certain lands were ceded to the Crown. By this means the Crown Colony was gradually extended. Several missions were also sent to more distant chiefdoms with the view to opening up trade with the interior; these were often helpful in settling inter-tribal wars, and led to an extension of British influence over the territory now embraced in the Sierra Leone Protectorate.

From 1822 to 1827 the Governors of Sierra Leone held the title of Governor-in-Chief of the West African Settlements, and in this capacity were required to visit the Gold Coast and the Gambia. It was within this period, on 21st January 1824, that Governor Charles MacCarthy was killed in a battle against the Ashantis at Assamako in the Gold Coast. In 1827 the Gold Coast Settlements were alienated and handed over to the African Company of Merchants, but owing to reports as to connivance with the slave trade, were again placed under the Sierra Leone Government in 1843. Further changes were made in 1850 when the British territories in the Gold Coast were made a separate Government for a second time, but in 1866 the Imperial Government constituted once more what was termed the Government of the West African Settlements, comprising Sierra Leone, the Gambia, the Gold Coast, and Lagos, and the Governor of Sierra Leone became the Governor-in-Chief. Eventually a new Charter, dated 24th July 1874, effected the separation which exists at the present time.

In 1895 an agreement for the demarcation of the northern boundary between the British and French spheres of influence and interests was ratified, and in 1896 the hinterland of Sierra Leone was declared a Protectorate and divided into administrative districts.

The year 1898 was marked by an insurrection in the Protectorate as the result of the imposition of a house tax. The resulting military operations were brought to a successful conclusion early in the following year, and since that date the Protectorate has remained peaceful.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitution.

The Dependency of Sierra Leone consists of two parts, of which one is Colony and the other Protectorate.

The Colony of Sierra Leone is what is generally, if not very accurately, spoken of as a Crown Colony as opposed to a self-governing Colony. Its constitution is to be found in the following Prerogative Instruments:—

(1) Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, dated the 28th day of January 1924.

(2) Instructions passed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet and dated the 28th day of January 1924, as amended by additional Instructions dated the 19th day of January 1929.

(3) The Order of the King in Council, entitled the Sierra Leone (Legislative Council) Order in Council, dated the 16th day of January 1924, as amended by Orders of the King in Council dated respectively the 27th day of June 1927, the 21st day of December 1928, and the 29th day of June 1931.

So far as the Protectorate of Sierra Leone is concerned, the Constitutional Instrument under which it is governed is the Order of the King in Council, entitled the Sierra Leone Protectorate Order in Council, 1924, dated 16th January 1924, passed by virtue of the powers conferred by the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890.

The Government of both the Colony and Protectorate is administered by a Governor and Commander-in-Chief (who in Sierra Leone is also a Vice-Admiral) appointed by Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet.

The Executive Council ordinarily consists of five members, namely the officers performing for the time being the duties of the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, Colonial Treasurer, the Director of Medical Services, and the Commissioner of the Northern Province of the Protectorate.

The Legislative Council consists—

(1) of the Governor as President;

(2) of official members—viz., the members of the Executive Council, the Commissioner of the Southern Province of the Protectorate, the Comptroller of Customs, the Director of Public Works, the Director of Education, the General Manager of the Railway, and the Director of Agriculture;

(3) of nominated unofficial members, of whom there may not be more than seven. Of these nominated members three must be Paramount Chiefs of the Protectorate. Of the remaining four, one represents general European interests in the community; the other European nominated member is

appointed after consultation with the Chamber of Commerce. The remaining two nominated members represent African interests;

(4) of three elected members, of whom two are elected by the Urban and one by the Rural Electorate District of the Colony.

Unofficial members hold their seats for five years, and nominated unofficial members are eligible to be re-appointed for a further term not exceeding five years.

There is power vested in the Governor to appoint persons to be extraordinary members upon any special occasion and to make provisional appointments on a vacancy in the seat of a nominated unofficial member.

The Governor presides over the Legislative Council, and questions therein are decided by a majority of votes, the Governor having an original vote as well as a casting vote.

It should be noted that the Legislative Council of Sierra Leone (like those of the Colonies of the Gambia and Kenya) has the power of legislating for the Protectorate as well as for the Colony, and that, in spite of the powers vested in the Governor and Legislative Council, the Letters Patent and the Sierra Leone Order in Council, 1924, expressly reserve to the Crown the power of legislating by Order in Council for the Colony and Protectorate, respectively.

Political Administration.

For administrative purposes Sierra Leone is commonly, though as will be seen later, not accurately, spoken of as being divided into hard-and-fast divisions—namely, Colony and Protectorate.

The Colony is British territory acquired by purchase or concession under treaties entered into from time to time with native Chiefs and tribal authorities, ranging in date from 1807, when the first valid cession of the Peninsula was made, till 1872, when a portion of Koya or Quiah, previously ceded to the Crown, was re-ceded to the Chiefs and people.

COLONY.

For administrative purposes the Colony may in fact be divided into two parts—

(1) Colony administered as such.

(2) Colony administered in every respect as Protectorate.

The part of the Colony administered as such consists virtually of the whole of the Peninsula of Sierra Leone, with the adjacent Tasso and Banana Islands, of the town of Bonthe on Sherbro Island, of the Turtle Islands and York Island. It is composed within three Districts—

(1) The Police District of Freetown.

(2) The Headquarters Judicial District.

(3) The Bonthe District.

Police District of Freetown.—The Police District of Freetown consists of the north-western portion of the Peninsula, and it is bounded on the south and south-west by the Adonkia Creek, and a line drawn from its source to a point between Allen Town and Grafton and from thence along Hastings Creek to the Rokell River.

This District which is defined by Section 52 (a) of the Magistrates' Courts Ordinance, 1924, contains, in addition to the city of Freetown, the villages of Kissy, Wilberforce, Wellington, Gloucester, Leicester, Regent, Bathurst, Charlotte, Lumley, and other smaller hamlets. Before 1931 the whole Police District of Freetown was under the general supervision of the Commissioner of Police, and no Political Officer visited the outlying villages. These villages have now been placed under the Commissioner of the Headquarters Judicial District for administrative (though not judicial) purposes.

Freetown Municipality.—The city of Freetown itself is governed by the "City Council of Freetown" pursuant to and in accordance with the Freetown Municipality Ordinance, 1927; but various so-called Tribal Headmen in Freetown have certain administrative powers over the natives of the aboriginal tribes who reside in the capital.

Headquarters Judicial District.—The Headquarters Judicial District, which is defined by Section 52 (b) of the Magistrates' Courts Ordinance, 1924, consists, roughly speaking, of the remainder of the Sierra Leone peninsula, together with the Banana Islands.

The Headquarters Judicial District is in charge of a District Commissioner with his headquarters at Waterloo, the largest town in the District. Unlike the Commissioner of all the other Districts, the Commissioner of the Headquarters District is subordinate to no Provincial Commissioner and corresponds direct with the Colonial Secretary.

For purposes of house-tax collection and expenditure, the Freetown Police District and the Headquarters District are grouped together under one Advisory Board, constituted on 1st January 1924.

Bonthe District.—The Bonthe District consists of Sherbro Island, Turtle Islands, York Island, and the four following chiefdoms on the mainland, viz., Timdale, Bendu, Cha, and Nongoba Bullom, all of which were ceded to the British Crown by various treaties at different times. It is administered by a District Commissioner who is subordinate to the Commissioner of the Southern Province of the Protectorate, and it should be noted, as will be seen later, that whereas the whole of the Police District of Freetown and the Headquarters Judicial District are administered as Colony, by far the greater part of this District is administered as Protectorate.

The town of Bonthe on Sherbro Island and York Island are the constituents of the Port of Sherbro, by far the most important commercial and maritime centre in Sierra Leone after Freetown itself. The population of these two places consists largely of natives of the Colony and of Europeans engaged in commerce. The mode of

administering Bonthe, York Island, and the small islands adjacent thereto, which together constitute what is called the Sherbro Judicial District, is on this account precisely similar to that employed in the Headquarters District of the Colony.

Outside the town of Bonthe, however, the whole of Sherbro Island has a largely aboriginal native population, divided into two chiefdoms—namely, Dema and Sittia—and the four mainland chiefdoms have a similar native population.

Administration on purely Colony lines being impracticable, the whole of the Bonthe District outside the narrow limits of the Sherbro Judicial District is, along with certain other parts of the Colony, administered exactly as is the Protectorate.

Parts of the Colony treated as Protectorate.—Those parts of the Colony which are, for all administrative purposes, treated as Protectorate, consist, in the first place, of a strip of coast line of varying width acquired at different periods before the proclamation of the Protectorate for purposes of Customs control.

Secondly, there is one other area which is in fact Colony administered as Protectorate; this is the Baki Loko territory, acquired by a treaty of 1825.

PROTECTORATE.

The hinterland of Sierra Leone, an area of some 26,000 square miles, was declared a British Protectorate in 1896, and the necessary legislative steps were taken to provide for its administration.

For some years it was, for political purposes, divided into a varying number of Districts and in 1919 it consisted of the following five Districts, viz., Koinadugu, Karene, Railway, Ronietta and Northern Sherbro. Each District was controlled by a District Commissioner, holding direct communication with the Secretariat in Freetown, aided by a small staff of Assistant District Commissioners, to each of whom he allocated such duties or such geographical spheres of activity as he thought fit. This division of the Protectorate was found, however, to be defective in practice, as it led to much duplication of work, and to the lack of both uniformity and continuity of policy. In order, therefore, to remedy these defects, as well as to bring the political division of the country into closer accord with the racial distribution of its inhabitants, the Protectorate was, in 1920, divided into three provinces, designated respectively the Northern, containing more or less the area formerly known as the Karene and Koinadugu Districts; the Central, taking in the Railway District and part of the Ronietta District; and the Southern, being composed of the Northern Sherbro District and parts of the Ronietta and Railway Districts. Each Province was placed in the charge of a Provincial Commissioner. The Provinces were divided into Districts of varying areas, each of which was controlled by a District Commissioner responsible, in his administrative capacity, to the Commissioner of the Province in which his District lay.

By the Protectorate (Administrative Divisions) Order in Council, 1930, which came into force on 1st January 1931, those three Provinces were reduced to two, namely the Northern and Southern Provinces; and the Order in Council under reference sets out :—

- (a) the respective boundaries of these two Provinces;
- (b) the Districts of which they consist; and
- (c) the native chiefdoms comprised in each of those Districts.

Each District is sub-divided into chiefdoms, owned and administered by their respective tribal authorities, i.e., their Paramount Chiefs in association with the elders or principal men of the respective chiefdoms.

The division of the Protectorate into Provinces and of the Provinces into Districts is arbitrary, and has been dictated by considerations of administrative efficiency, due regard being paid to the necessity for including in one District, where possible, chiefdoms comprising one tribe or section of a tribe. The boundaries of the chiefdoms, however, are fixed by prehistoric tradition and native custom, and although disputes constantly arise as to sections of inter-chiefdom boundaries (indeed the settlement of boundary disputes forms an important part of the work of a Political Officer), the Government does not interfere with chiefdom boundaries unless invited to do so. The chiefdoms vary in size from the considerable area of Tambaka Yobanji in the Kambia District to the smallness of the Yabai Krim in the Pujehun District, i.e. from approximately 500 square miles to about 20 square miles.

Each chiefdom is entirely separate and independent, and although there is natural cohesion between chiefdoms composed of the same tribe and situated in the same locality, no Paramount Chief can claim pre-eminence over other Paramount Chiefs of the same tribe, either by reason of the area of his chiefdom, the wealth of his people, or the antiquity of his house. At any meeting of the Paramount Chiefs of a District, pride of place would naturally be given to those whom age or, more especially length of reign entitled to that honour at the hands of their brother Chiefs, but the conferring of that mark of respect implies no relationship of superiority and subordination. The several chiefdoms are well defined and have no official inter-relationship whatever, with this exception, that independent and disinterested Paramount Chiefs of the same tribe may be called upon to act as assessors in the settlement of any "palaver" which the Tribal Authority of a chiefdom find themselves unable to settle unaided. They may be invited to act in this capacity either at the instance of a Provincial or District Commissioner, or at that of the Paramount Chief in whose chiefdom the dispute has arisen.

The Tribal Authority of a chiefdom is the sole owner of the land within that chiefdom, and this principle of native law and custom, which is uniform throughout the Protectorate, has been consistently and actively supported by Government.

The Courts of the Paramount Chiefs are dealt with in Chapter XIII.

Functions of Political Officers.—The functions of a Political Officer are three-fold in nature : administrative, judicial, and departmental ; but his departmental duties are so wedded to those that are purely administrative that it will be convenient to consider those duties together and separately from those of a judicial nature.

In his administrative capacity the District Commissioner (and, *a fortiori*, the Provincial Commissioner) is the representative of the Colonial Government in that portion of the Protectorate committed to his administrative charge. He is the guide, philosopher, and friend to the Paramount Chiefs, the Tribal Authority and the people. He is at once the support of the recognized native authority, the upholder of its prestige, and the protector of the poor against oppression by their rulers. He is the mouthpiece of the Government, and the interpreter and demonstrator of its policy.

A District Commissioner's departmental duties in reality form a part of his administrative duties. He is responsible for the collection of Government revenue in his District, by (a) house tax, and (b) the issue of licences for stores, hawkers, vendors of spirit, fire-arms, etc. He is the propagandist officer who is the coadjutor to the technical officers of the Agricultural and Forestry Departments ; he supervises sanitation on behalf of the Health Department ; he oversees the general conduct of the post offices and agencies ; he keeps a wary eye on the Customs frontiers and seaboards ; he controls the management of the gaols ; he advises the Education Department and assists in its propaganda ; he supervises the laying out and construction of second-class roads, and the erection of native buildings required for official purposes ; he facilitates the progress through his District of any officers whose duties require them to travel through it ; in short, he has ancillary duties to perform on behalf of practically every Government Department in the Colony.

The judicial duties and powers of a Political Officer are fully dealt with under Chapter XIII, to which reference is invited.

III.—POPULATION.

Colony.—The total population of the Colony according to the census of 1931 was 96,422, the racial distributions being as follows :—

Race.		Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Total Population.
African native tribes	...	36,914	24,869	61,783	64·08
African non-natives—Sierra Leoneans	...	14,438	18,408	32,846	34·06
Other African non-natives	...	583	346	929	0·96
Asiatics	...	309	135	444	0·46
Europeans	...	308	112	420	0·44
Totals	...	52,552	43,870	96,422	100·00

Protectorate.—The total population of the Protectorate according to the 1931 census was 1,672,057, of which 796,391 were males and 875,666 were females, and consisted of African native tribes, African non-natives, Asiatics, and Europeans.

The total European population of the Protectorate was 231, of which 173 were males and 58 were females. Of this total 142 were British, other Europeans numbering 89, in which were included 34 Americans.

The total Asiatic population of the Protectorate was 772—577 males and 195 females. These included 754 Syrians, 16 Arabs, and 2 Indians.

African non-natives in the Protectorate numbered 3,265, 1,765 being males and 1,500 females. These included Sierra Leoneans for the most part and a few West Indians, Liberians, American Negroes, persons classed at the census as Nigerians, Gold Coasters, and Mulattoes. Of the total shown, Sierra Leoneans numbered 3,046.

Nationalities and Tribes.

The following table shows the various nationalities and tribes amongst the African population of the Colony and Protectorate, and the number in each case at the 1931 census.

<i>Nationality or Tribe.</i>	<i>Colony.</i>	<i>Protectorate.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Percentage of Total African Population.</i>
Sierra Leoneans ... ...	... 32,846	3,046	35,892	2·04
Other African non-natives	... 929	219	1,148	0·07
Temne ... ... ...	... 21,431	472,258	493,689	27·95
Mende ... ... ...	... 10,258	568,788	579,046	32·78
Limba ... ... ...	... 6,957	138,714	145,671	8·24
Loko ... ... ...	... 5,228	57,152	62,380	3·52
Bullom and Sherbro	... 4,634	139,101	143,735	8·15
Susu ... ... ...	... 2,391	43,210	45,601	2·58
Mandingo ... ... ...	... 1,988	14,081	16,069	0·91
Fula ... ... ...	... 1,330	15,523	16,853	0·96
Kono ... ... ...	... 604	68,521	69,125	3·92
Gallinas (or Vai)	... 673	19,865	20,538	1·16
Koranko ... ... ...	... 157	44,203	44,360	2·52
Kissi ... ... ...	... 170	34,810	34,980	1·32
Yalunka ... ... ...	... 73	16,066	16,139	0·92
Krim ... ... ...	... 41	20,639	20,680	1·18
Gola	—	8,509	8,509	0·50
Gbande	—	1,131	1,131	0·07
Fanti	125	—	125	0·01
Joloff	181	—	181	0·01
Sarakuli	122	—	122	0·01
Kroo	4,481	—	4,481	0·29
Bassa	512	—	512	0·04
Miscellaneous	427	5,219	5,646	0·33
Totals	95,558	1,671,055	1,766,613	—

Geographical Distribution.—The main geographical distribution of the African population was as follows :—

		<i>Colony other than Freetown.</i>	<i>Freetown.</i>	<i>Protectorate.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Sierra Leoneans	...	20,970	11,876	3,046	35,892
Other African non-natives	...	784	145	219	1,148
Tribes	...	32,919	28,864	1,667,790	1,729,573
			Total African population	...	1,766,613

Migration.

During the year 1935, 226 Syrians entered and 140 left the Colony by sea. In all there were 2,414 immigrants and 1,898 emigrants. All these entered and left the Colony by sea. The total number of European immigrants and emigrants other than British subjects was 380 and 161 respectively.

Births and Deaths.

The figures for births and deaths for the Colony for 1935 are as follows :—

(a) Births—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Crude Birth-rate.</i>
1,276	1,113	2,389	23·4

(The birth-rate as shown is probably too low owing to many births outside Freetown having escaped registration).

(b) Deaths—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Crude Death-rate.</i>
1,324	1,100	2,424	23·7

As registration is not compulsory there are no reliable figures available for births and deaths in the Protectorate.

Infant Mortality.—The following are the figures for infant mortality for the Colony for 1935 :—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 live-births.</i>
304	248	552	231

(The infant mortality rate shown is probably too high owing to the absence of machinery for enforcing registration of births outside Freetown).

No figures for infant mortality are available for the Protectorate.

The last decennial census (1931) gave a total of 96,422 persons in the Colony as compared with 85,163 persons in 1921. The increase was due chiefly to immigration of natives from the Protectorate to Freetown, the rest of the Colony showing an increase of about 41 persons during this period. The estimated population at mid-year 1935 was 60,903.

The population of the Protectorate was recorded as 1,672,057 compared with 1,456,148 persons in 1921, the difference in this case being an actual increase due to natural increment and not to migratory or other causes.

Marriages.

The numbers of marriages as shown by the registers for 1935 are :—

	<i>Freetown.</i>	<i>Village areas (Colony).</i>	<i>Headquarters District (Colony).</i>	<i>Bonthe (Colony).</i>	<i>Protectorate.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Christian ...	146	27	10	7	36	226
Mohammedan ...	24	5	—	—	1	30
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	170	32	10	7	37	256
	—	—	—	—	—	—

Only figures for Christian marriages are available for the Protectorate. There is no registration of marriage by "Native Custom".

IV—HEALTH.

General Health of the Population.

The exceptionally heavy rain experienced in 1935 was in a large measure a contributory cause of the increased incidence of disease experienced in that year. Increases were especially noticeable in the respiratory and skeletal groups, while malaria recorded an appreciable jump in cases treated.

The increase in avitaminosis is apparent rather than real, and is due largely to the easier recognition of this deficiency state which was first recorded in any number only three years ago.

As in the former year the figures quoted refer only to cases treated at the Government Institutions; they do not include cases treated at Mission Hospitals and Mission Centres. In conformity with former practice a tabular list shows in comparative manner the cases treated in 1934 and 1935.

The steady growth of mining activities in the Protectorate probably accounts for the increase in external injuries, many of which ultimately reach Freetown for medical treatment.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>1934.</i>	<i>1935.</i>
Malaria ...	6,197	7,718
Yaws ...	7,362	6,539
Chronic rheumatism ...	7,559	7,642
Conjunctivitis ...	841	903
Affections of the ear ...	924	940
Lymphadenitis, bubo (non-specific) ...	621	620
Coryza ...	1,031	1,100

<i>Disease.</i>						<i>1934.</i>	<i>1935.</i>
Acute bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	6,106	6,905
Chronic bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	3,994	5,301
Caries, pyorrhœa, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	1,539	1,627
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	563	440
Dyspepsia	...	...	...	...	...	4,350	3,827
Abscess	...	...	...	...	...	529	500
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	961	1,296
Arthritis	...	...	...	...	...	1,481	1,624
Wounds (by cutting or stabbing instruments)	...	...	...	...	...	857	745
Other external injuries	...	...	...	...	...	3,756	5,132
Asthenia	...	...	...	...	...	845	951
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	476	566
Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	2,234	2,526
Avitaminosis	...	...	...	...	...	455	1,311

Mortality.

Only in Freetown can any accurate figures be obtained as to the number of deaths and their causes. Elsewhere, although the machinery exists, it is entirely dependent on the willingness of the people to come forward for treatment, and, in fatal cases, to register the deaths. Every effort is made to register all deaths occurring in Freetown and, as the Medical Department controls the burial of diseased persons, the figures for deaths occurring in Freetown can be taken as fairly accurate. Only the education and the greater advancement of the indigenous population can enable us to obtain reliable figures for the Protectorate.

Principal Causes of Deaths—1935.

Appended is a list showing the principal causes of deaths as registered. The deaths as registered in Freetown are the approximate statement of the mortality causes:—

<i>Causes.</i>	<i>Freetown (including Cline Town) 1,375.</i>		
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>	
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	222	16·0	
Malaria	179	13·0	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	84	6·1	
Senility	80	5·8	
Dysentery, Diarrhoea and Enteritis	73	5·3	
Infantile Convulsions	64	4·6	
Nephritis	61	4·4	
Cerebral haemorrhage	45	3·2	
Valvular disease	41	2·9	
Prematurity	21	1·5	
Strangulated Hernia	15	1·0	
Hemiplegia	14	1·0	

The number of deaths registered on medical certificate was 441, comprising 32·0 per cent. of the deaths registered.

Causes of deaths for the rest of the Colony are not available, the figures being very unreliable owing to the absence of a Medical Officer or Dispenser in the majority of the registration areas.

Provision for Treatment.

The Government hospital facilities in the Colony remain as they were in 1934, i.e., the Connaught Hospital in Freetown and the Government Hospital in Bonthe.

A comparative statement of the cases treated at these institutions during 1934 and 1935 is given below. Generally the figures for 1935 show an increase over those for 1934, the most noticeable item being that of "subsequent attendances" at the Connaught Hospital; this indicates a greater appreciation of benefit on the part of the patients reporting.

The figures of attendance at the Connaught and Bonthe Hospitals are as follows :—

Connaught Hospital—

						1934.	1935.
In-patients	...	...	...	...	...	2,464	2,672
Out-patients—New cases	...	...	...	...	...	17,155	18,635
Subsequent attendances	...	...	...	...	...	105,511	135,094
Operations	...	...	...	...	...	2,281	2,246

Bonthe Hospital—

						1934.	1935.
In-patients	...	...	...	...	...	425	371
Out-patients—New cases	...	...	...	...	...	5,080	2,983
Subsequent attendances	...	...	...	...	...	15,888	13,670

Protectorate.—During the period under review a new Protectorate type hospital of permanent construction was completed in Moyamba. The Mission hospitals continue as formerly, aided by the subsidy given by Government; during the year good progress was made with the construction of a semi-permanent hospital at Kamakwie, the centre of the American Wesleyan Mission.

The Government hospitals at Bo and Makeni both record increases in their activity; a comparative table for 1934 and 1935 is given below.

Protectorate Hospital, Bo, Southern Province—

						1934.	1935.
In-patients	...	...	...	...	...	410	445
Out-patients—New cases	...	...	...	...	...	2,379	2,962
Subsequent attendances	...	...	...	...	...	16,046	18,561

Protectorate Hospital, Makeni, Northern Province—

						1934.	1935.
In-patients	...	...	...	...	...	204	241
Out-patients—New cases	...	...	...	...	...	1,919	2,563
Subsequent attendances	...	...	...	...	...	8,620	9,951

Dispensaries.—During the year there was no change in these facilities.

Midwives.—As a logical sequence of the passing of the new Midwives Ordinance, a beginning was made in the training of African midwives. During the year four pupils were enrolled.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—The removal of this centre to larger and more accessible quarters near the Connaught Hospital has led to a most welcome use of the centre by expectant women

and nursing mothers. Admissions to the labour ward show the greatest increase ever recorded. The table below shows these increases when compared with 1934, and also gives the number of cases treated at the Princess Christian Mission Hospital which serves the east ward of the city.

The work of the Health Visitors steadily increases, and, as these officers are directly controlled and supervised by the Medical Officer in charge of the Maternity Centre, there is a resultant increase in the amount of after-care which nursing mothers and young infants are receiving.

	<i>Connaught Hospital and Maternity Centre, Oxford Street.</i>		<i>Princess Christian Mission Hospital.</i>	
	1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.
Ante-natal attendances ...	... 4,684	5,981	1,265	981
Labour cases admitted ...	... 331	554	76	42
Health visits ...	... 5,008	11,985	3,489	3,551
Infant welfare clinic attendances	10,681	12,056	6,564	4,414

Sanitation.

Though the epidemic of smallpox which began in 1932 still continues in a less severe form, it is satisfactory to record a diminution in the numbers of cases and deaths from this disease.

The undetected entrance of an infected Protectorate native into Freetown gave rise to a localized outbreak in June; 22 cases resulted, but the outbreak was quickly controlled.

The table below gives the figures for the Colony and Protectorate during 1935.

<i>Area.</i>		<i>Number of cases discovered.</i>	<i>Number of deaths.</i>	<i>Number of vaccinations.</i>
<i>Colony Districts—</i>				
Freetown	...	...	61*	8 13,498
Headquarters Judicial	...	...	146	23 2,113
Sherbro	...	...	7	— 2,436
<i>Protectorate Districts—</i>				
Northern Province—				
Port Loko	...	...	353	57 1,552
Kambia	...	...	3	— 1,026
Karene	...	...	17	— 294
Bombali	...	...	133	3 3,412
Koinadugu	...	...	42	— 1,244
Southern Province—				
Kailahun	...	...	30	4 335
Kono	...	...	22	6 1,364
Kenema	...	...	2	1 2,049
Bo	...	...	328	93 2,841
Moyamba	...	...	243	34 8,369
Pujehun	...	...	212	30 3,776
Totals	...	1,599	259	44,309

* Of these cases 21 were imported.

General Sanitary Progress.

The services of the Chief Sanitary Superintendent were wholly utilized during 1935 in improving sanitary conditions in the Protectorate. Three towns accidentally destroyed by fire were rebuilt on sanitary lay-outs under his personal supervision, and many other Protectorate towns were provided with sanitary structures, markets, etc., from funds provided by the Protectorate Mining Benefits Trust Fund.

This sanitary improvement of Protectorate towns is now a definite part of the Medical Department's programme, and it will be continued on a progressive scale in later years.

V.—HOUSING.**Freetown and Colony.**

Colony.—The majority of the wage-earning population of Freetown and the larger towns of the Colony occupy timber-framed houses with concrete or stone and mortar dwarf walls roofed with corrugated iron sheets or palm-tile thatch. The floors are either of concrete or of native timber boarding, and window openings are fitted with glazed casements or boarded hinged shutters according to the means of the occupant.

The artisan class, as a rule, own their houses, whereas the unskilled labouring class usually rent one or two rooms in a compound for themselves and their families.

There are no Building Societies in Freetown, but a scheme inaugurated by the City Council enables homeowners and prospective homeowners to borrow money for the purpose of improving existing buildings and erecting new ones. Under this arrangement approximately 22 new houses have been erected at a cost of about £8,500.

In addition, a building scheme has been introduced by a firm of timber merchants in Freetown. Under this scheme, prospective owners of the type of house property costing from £250 to £600 can erect buildings under the supervision of the firm both expeditiously and inexpensively, payment being made by an initial small deposit followed by monthly instalments.

In connexion with this scheme, Government has laid out and has leased to the firm a small model residential area which enables intending homeowners to obtain (by assignment from the firm) leases of building plots at a moderate ground rent and with an option to purchase the freehold within 20 years.

Seven houses have now been completed on this area.

Protectorate.

In the Protectorate the great majority of houses of the wage-earning classes are built of wattle and mud daub with palm-tile or grass thatch roofs—and this form of construction is frequently

also adopted by Europeans both official and unofficial. In the Protectorate, as a rule, the occupier is the owner, though in the larger towns there is always a floating population which rents the accommodation required.

VI—PRODUCTION.

Minerals.

Minerals occurring in economic quantities in Sierra Leone are platinum, gold, diamonds, iron and probably chromite and ilmenite. All but the last two were mined during the year and new deposits of gold and diamonds were found.

Platinum.—Of the few individuals and small syndicates who were attracted to the platinum field towards the close of 1934 only two reached the producing stage. Some rich pockets were worked by the only company interested in platinum, thus raising the year's production to 750 ounces which is a record.

Gold.—More individuals and local syndicates continued to enter the field and some are making headway. Applications received for mining ground in respect of gold were nearly twice as numerous as in 1934. This is indicative of the great attraction offered by gold mining.

Up to the present gold produced in Sierra Leone has been mined from alluvial deposits. However, active prospecting was continued on the lode at Pujehun and one or two more promising indications of lode formations have been discovered. Generally much greater interest was taken in lode prospecting.

The gold mining field has widened to include part of Karene District, Northern Province, and Kailahun and Kenema Districts, Southern Province, as well as the already known mining areas in Koinadugu and Bombali Districts of the Northern Province and Bo and Kono Districts of the Southern Province. The last, which was a closed area, was thrown open to general prospecting just before the end of the year. Applications for mining ground have been lodged, but production has not yet commenced.

The year's production of 32,947 ounces (crude) of an estimated value of £219,323 exceeds the previous year's record of 22,614 ounces.

Diamonds.—The agreement between Government and the Consolidated African Selection Trust, Limited, has now been ratified and a subsidiary Company under the name of the Sierra Leone Selection Trust, Limited, has been incorporated having the sole right to prospect for and win diamonds in Sierra Leone. Government benefits by means of a tax on profits. All rents are commuted and a sum of £7,000 is payable annually to the Protectorate

Mining Benefits Trust Fund (all mineral rents accruing from the Protectorate are paid into this fund which is used exclusively for the benefit of the natives of the Protectorate).

The production is now on a large scale and amounted to 291,837 carats during 1935. The diamond is of gem quality and considerable reserves have been discovered. Sierra Leone is now established as one of the important diamond fields of the world.

Iron Ore.—The mining of the hematite iron ore is now also an established industry. The deposits now being worked occur near Marampa. Larger deposits have been discovered near the head-waters of the Tonkolili River in Tonkolili District. A survey for a proposed extension of the railway from Marampa to the Tonkolili area has been completed, but it will be some time before the latter deposit is exploited.

Production of iron ore from the Marampa deposits during 1935 amounted to 433,540 tons.

Labour.—Mining is absorbing a large number of unskilled African labourers and offering employment to some skilled artisans and clerks. Labour is generally plentiful but seasonal shortages during the planting season are sometimes experienced. Below is appended a comparative table showing the numbers of African labourers employed since the inception of mining in Sierra Leone :—

Comparative table showing numbers of African labourers engaged in connexion with prospecting and mining. (Figures for Marampa-Pepel Railway Construction 1930-2 not included.)

	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
Daily average for the year ...	48	384	718	1,782	4,480	6,075	9,445

Agricultural Produce.

FOOD CROPS.

Rice.—The year 1935 was a record one for the export of rice; some 1,024 tons were exported, chiefly to Bathurst, Gambia, while imports were negligible. The 1935 crop, which supplies food till September, 1936, was an average one although rather late.

Considerable progress was made in the Scarcies area. One of the imported varieties of seed which has proved successful was multiplied considerably, and distributed for production by farmers in the Scarcies area in 1935. A good return was obtained and this variety can now be established in that area. Other introductions and selections are being studied; some of the varieties showed great promise in 1934 and 1935 and further work with these is being carried on. It is hoped that very shortly the production of some of the pure strains of the better varieties will be on a sufficiently large scale to allow of milling separately in sufficient quantities to try the various markets along the West Coast.

Cassava.—The Agricultural Department has continued its efforts to eliminate "mosaic" disease, which causes great loss in the yield of cassava, and good progress has been made.

EXPORT CROPS.

Palm Kernels.—Seventy-eight thousand and nineteen tons of kernels were exported in 1935. Unfortunately the prices prevailing were still low and the value only reached £583,645. The price is less than half that of 1928.

Ginger.—An average amount of ginger was harvested and the price was better than in 1934, but was still low.

Piassava.—The export of piassava for 1935 was slightly below the record established during the previous year but the price slightly improved. The quality both of Sherbro and of Sulima piassava was well maintained. The export figures for the last seven years show that this product has suffered less violent fluctuations in price than other Sierra Leone products.

Kola.—The exports of kola improved slightly during 1935 but the trade in this product is still depressed. For many years kola has been, next to palm kernels, the chief agricultural export and the effect of the loss of so much of the kola trade will be severely felt. The volume (1,859 tons) was little more than one-half that of 1928 and the value (£39,415) less than one-seventh.

Cocoa.—For a long time there have been small quantities of cocoa exported. In 1935 the amount reached 164 tons.

Coffee.—A small amount of coffee is grown for local consumption and for export. So far only negligible quantities have been exported, but the native cultivator is interested in this crop and shows signs of increasing production.

Fruits.—Investigations with regard to grapefruit, oranges, bananas and pineapples continue but it will take some time before there is any real export in those products.

Live Stock.

There are as yet no statistics concerning the live stock of this country. Cattle-farming is carried out on a small scale in the Northern Province. A large proportion of the cattle (of which something like 5,000-6,000 are slaughtered annually in the Colony and Protectorate) is imported from French Guinea. Sheep and goats are bred on a moderate scale throughout the country, and pigs to a small extent. There are a few horses, the majority of which also come from French territory. The value of the export in hides amounted to £1,156 in 1935.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Imports.

The total value of imports into the Colony during the year 1935 amounted to £1,214,315 as compared with £805,227 in 1934, being an increase of £409,088.

The following table shows the value of imports by classes during the years 1934 and 1935 :—

	1934.	1935.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco	189,315	209,551	20,236
Class II.—Raw materials, etc.	60,200	72,909	12,709
Class III.—Articles mainly manufactured	503,764	816,438	312,674
Class IV.—Animals not for food, etc.	23,055	27,658	4,603
Class V.—Bullion, specie, etc.	28,893	87,759	58,866
Totals	805,227	1,214,315	409,088

Compared with 1934, there were increases in the value of each of the three categories which constitute Class I. "Food" by £1,067, "Drink" by £6,275, and "Tobacco" (mainly unmanufactured) by £12,894.

Commercial coal was mainly responsible for the increase in Class II, the value being £12,186 more than the 1934 imports.

With few exceptions all items under Class III recorded an increase, particularly cotton piece-goods (£189,634).

The following table shows the commercial imports for home consumption of cotton piece-goods, including velveteen, for the years 1931 to 1935 :—

Year.	Quantity. Sq. yds.	Value. £	Duty obtained.	
			1931	1932
1931	5,014,822	121,960		22,302
1932	11,169,367	262,959		48,651
1933	6,129,891	124,702		24,047
1934	5,638,488	107,740		26,524
1935	14,207,762	297,455		72,593

The following table shows the value and percentage of the imports from the different countries during the years 1934 and 1935 :—

	Value.		Percentage.	
	1934. £	1935. £	1934.	1935.
United Kingdom	470,100	852,124	58.38	70.17
British West African Possessions ...	6,226	34,837	0.77	2.87
British Possessions (other) ...	145,132	133,605	18.03	11.02
France	11,696	13,159	1.45	1.08
Germany	22,146	31,749	2.75	2.61
Holland	4,455	8,448	0.55	0.70
United States of America ...	69,118	74,293	8.59	6.11
Japan	28,770	9,258	3.57	0.76
Foreign West African Possessions ...	974	5,034	0.12	0.41
Other European Countries ...	37,506	41,016	4.66	3.38
Other Countries	9,104	10,792	1.13	0.89
Totals	805,227	1,214,315	100.00	100.00

Exports.

The total value of exports from the Colony during the year 1935 amounted to £1,583,834 (domestic exports being £1,556,816 and non-domestic £27,018).

The following table shows the value of exports by classes during the years 1934 and 1935 :—

	1934.	1935.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
<i>Class I.—</i>				
Food, Drink and Tobacco	28,361	46,982	18,621	—
<i>Class II.—</i>				
Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured	663,698	1,283,271	619,573	—
<i>Class III.—</i>				
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	15,357	14,554	—	803
<i>Class IV.—</i>				
Animals not for food	282	629	347	—
<i>Class V.—</i>				
Bullion, Specie and Currency Notes...	304,177	238,398	—	65,779
Totals	1,011,875	1,583,834	638,541	66,582

The following table is a comparative statement of the principal exports during the years 1934 and 1935 :—

	1934.		1935.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	£	£		£
Benniseed tons	208	1,856	370	3,122
Cocoa, raw „	138	1,755	164	2,043
Diamonds value	—	144,861	—	402,067
Ginger cwt.	33,172	23,254	30,121	36,918
Hides (cattle) tanned lb.	9,577	481	13,905	770
Kola nuts cwt.	29,206	18,304	37,183	39,415
Palm kernels tons	68,655	360,780	78,019	583,645
Palm oil „	2,225	18,032	2,892	35,814
Peppers lb.	75,569	1,015	40,385	665
Piassava tons	3,659	30,390	3,438	30,997
Platinum oz.	339	2,567	556	3,871
Rice tons	222	1,204	1,024	6,183
Gold oz.	22,733	140,483	33,216	225,423
Gum copal tons	—	—	—	—
Iron ore value	—	84,355	—	178,848

The following table shows the value and percentage of the exports to the different countries during the years 1934 and 1935 :—

Country.	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	1934.	1934.	1935.	1935.
United Kingdom	679,163	67·12	1,078,923	68·12
British West African Possessions	31,490	3·11	48,822	3·08
British Possessions (other) ...	3,489	0·35	5,861	0·37
France	1,963	0·19	1,628	0·10
Germany	148,010	14·63	179,074	11·31
Holland	84,402	8·34	124,589	7·87
United States of America ...	20,409	2·02	39,110	2·46
Japan	750	0·07	—	—
Foreign West African Possessions	9,244	0·91	9,122	0·58
Other European Countries ...	30,205	2·99	90,721	5·73
Other Countries	2,750	0·27	5,984	0·38
Totals	1,011,875	100·00	1,583,834	100·00

Palm kernels.—Seventy-eight thousand and nineteen tons, or 9,364 tons in excess of 1934, were shipped. The Home market price advanced from £7 17s. 6d. in January to £11 7s. 6d. in December and averaged throughout the year £9 15s. 4d. as compared with £7 3s. 2d. in 1934.

Germany purchased 18,695 tons, a decrease on the figure of 1934 of 7,434 tons. Shipments to the United Kingdom amounted to 35,589 tons or an increase of 9,965 tons. Exports to Holland fell from 14,758 to 14,711 tons.

The following table shows the quantity and value of palm kernels exported during the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity.		Value.	
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
1931	54,462	449,742	
1932	77,162	687,477	
1933	64,083	472,824	
1934	68,655	360,780	
1935	78,019	583,645	

State of Trade.

The following comparative table summarises the state of trade in the Colony during the past five years :—

Year.	Total Imports (less specie and currency notes).	Re-exports (less specie and currency notes).	Net Imports.	Domestic Exports.	Excess of net Imports over Domestic Exports.	Excess of Domestic Exports over net Imports.	Customs Duty on Imports and Exports.	Tonnage of Shipping entered and cleared.
	£	£			£	£		
1931	991,120	75,376	915,744	616,337	299,407	—	340,056	3,927,457
1932	1,219,588	20,749	1,198,839	878,424	320,415	—	452,880	3,286,299
1933	817,108	18,306	798,802	753,930	44,872	—	371,686	3,509,799
1934	776,334	15,376	760,958	832,805	—	71,847	313,528	4,269,310
1935	1,126,556	14,043	1,112,513	1,556,816	—	444,303	441,966	4,794,868

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.**Wages.**

Artisans (Public Works).—In Freetown during 1935, Public Works artisans were paid from 2s. to 5s. 9d. a day for journeymen and from 1s. to 2s. 6d. for improvers. In a few exceptional cases certain journeymen were paid at the rate of 8s. 8d. a day.

In the Protectorate rates of pay varied from 6d. to 1s. for improvers and 1s. 3d. to 4s. 6d. for journeymen.

Labourers (Public Works).—In Freetown the rate of pay of ordinary unskilled labour was from 10d. to 1s. a day. In certain cases unskilled labour employed on special work in which they had acquired some proficiency were paid slightly higher rates, the maximum being 1s. 9d.

In the Protectorate the rates of pay for labourers varied from 6d. to 10d. while the rate of pay for headmen or gangers varied from 8d. to 2s. 6d. per diem.

The wages of artisans outside Government employ are practically the same as those paid by the Government departments.

Cost of Living.

Rice, the Colony's staple food, was obtainable at from 4s. 6d. to 5s. a bushel or 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 3d. per kettle.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.**Education.**

An Education Ordinance passed in 1929 provides a complete code for all Colony and Protectorate Schools. Separate Schedules for Rules which apply to the Colony and Protectorate respectively, differ in the important means of providing Government grants-in-aid.

In the Colony the schools are conducted by Boards of Managers as a result of the amalgamation of the mission primary schools. The Managers are responsible for the upkeep of the school buildings, but the Government pays the salaries of teachers and provides equipment in the primary schools. All school fees are paid into Government revenue.

The secondary schools on the Assisted List in the Colony receive capitation and equipment grants-in-aid. Grants are also paid to qualified teachers.

In the Protectorate, the assisted schools receive capitation, building, and equipment grants, but the salaries of the teachers are paid by the mission authorities. Additional grants to qualified teachers in the Protectorate are paid by Government.

Colony Schools.—In the Colony there are at present 49 assisted primary schools with 7,097 pupils on the rolls, and an average daily attendance of 5,236.

The assisted secondary schools (which in some cases provide primary and preparatory education as well as secondary) may be summarized as follows :—

Boys—Six schools with 64 primary, 212 preparatory, and 338 secondary pupils.

Girls—Five schools with 426 primary, 136 preparatory, and 118 secondary pupils.

Included in the boys' secondary schools is the Prince of Wales School, established and maintained entirely by Government. This school makes special provision for the teaching of science and for technical instruction, and is liberally equipped with laboratories and workshops.

There are also three assisted schools in the Colony providing technical training—The Albert Academy (carpentry and printing), the Sir Alfred Jones Trade School (carpentry and cabinet making) and the American Methodist Episcopal Girls' Industrial School (domestic science and arts).

With regard to the education of girls, domestic science in all its branches forms a most important part of their curriculum. A special examination is held annually by independent examiners and certificates and diplomas are awarded to successful students. Provision is also made at the Roman Catholic Convent School for instruction in this subject to girls who have already left school and are contemplating marriage. Training for nurses is given both at the Connaught (Government) Hospital and the Princess Christian Mission Hospital.

Scholarships tenable at the Women Teachers' Training College at Wilberforce are awarded to girls from the secondary schools. The College is residential and is financed and largely controlled by Government.

Higher education for boys is provided at the Fourah Bay College, a missionary institution affiliated to Durham University. Arts and theological courses are provided.

A separate course for the training of men teachers is also provided at the Fourah Bay College. Residential scholarships are awarded annually by Government, which also finances the scheme for teacher training.

Protectorate Schools.—In the Protectorate nine missionary authorities conduct 83 assisted schools with 5,063 boys and 1,792 girls on the rolls. In addition, these bodies conduct 94 unassisted schools with an estimated total of 2,457 pupils.

Government controls four boys' schools in the Protectorate with 275 pupils. These, with an exception of the Bo School and the Koyeima School, are rural schools of junior grades.

Bo School.—The Bo School was established by Government in 1906 for the education of the sons and nominees of chiefs. It aims at providing the boys with a liberal education in preparation for the important work they will probably be called upon to undertake in connexion with their chiefdoms. Hygiene and sanitation, town-planning, building, and manual training form part of the curriculum.

Koyeima School.—The Central School at Koyeima is intended to provide education for Protectorate youths beyond that given in the primary schools. The school provides training in such technical subjects as woodwork, building, tailoring and agriculture.

Music, etc.—The natives of Sierra Leone have a gift for music—both vocal and instrumental. Most of the large churches and chapels have pipe organs which are played by African organists. Many Africans, too, show skill on the pianoforte and other instruments. The band of the Sierra Leone Battalion, Royal West African Frontier Force, is an outstanding example of how far musical art can be developed.

A special music master has been engaged to teach singing on correct lines in the schools, and very good results have been achieved. Naturally, the children excel in rendering negro spirituals, but they have made great progress in music of a more classical nature. An annual singing competition has been inaugurated among the schools and this has been highly appreciated and the competition is very keen.

Welfare Institutions.

The methods of caring for the poor and sick, and the burial of deceased destitute persons, remained the same during 1935 as in the previous year. Friendly Societies abound.

Mental Home.

There is a mental home at Kissy, about 5 miles from Freetown.

X.—COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

Colony.—The principal means of communication between the smaller towns and villages of the Colony is by non-motorable roads; there is, however, a motor road from Freetown to Waterloo (20 miles) which connects several villages on the route with the capital of the Colony. Freetown is connected to Lumley Village ($6\frac{1}{4}$ miles) and to Hill Station (5 miles) by bitumen-surfaced laterite

gravel roads, and a laterite gravel road from Hill Station, 3 miles in length, affords facilities for the use of motor transport to the population in and around the village of Regent. There are 50 miles of roads and streets in the capital of the Colony of which about 31 miles are motorable—the principal streets are surface treated with bitumen and are provided with concrete surface-water drains and channels.

Protectorate.—The total mileage of maintained roads in the Protectorate is $792\frac{1}{2}$. The roads are surfaced with laterite and are for the greater part 16 feet wide.

The majority of the bridges are built with concrete abutments and piers, and steel joists carrying a timber deck, but there still remains a number of timber beam and trestle bridges which are being reconstructed to a standard type, with a 9 feet wide deck, as their condition requires and funds permit. In addition to the above Government-maintained roads there are Chiefs' roads constructed and maintained by tribal authorities concerned which are not usually open to heavy motor vehicles and are sometimes not available for motor traffic in the wet season.

In cases where the width of rivers has rendered the construction of bridges financially impracticable, ferries are used. There are fifteen such ferries in the Protectorate, the pontoons being constructed of timber with one exception which has a steel pontoon. The pontoons are connected by steel wire rope bridles to a wheeled traveller moving on a steel cable-way which is slung between towers on the bank. The pontoon is impelled across the river partly by the action of the current and partly by the boat crew hauling on a light steel hand-line also slung between the banks.

Railway.

The total length of open line at the end of 1935 was 311 miles : the gauge is 2 ft. 6 ins.

Capital expenditure on the railway to the 31st December 1935, was £1,428,239.

The total revenue of the railway was £180,005 which shows an increase of £28,791 over the figure for the previous year. The revenue includes £1,084 for contributions to the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Fund.

The expenditure, other than capital, for the year was £186,555 which shows a reduction of £3,964 as compared with 1934. This total includes £78,547 for loan charges, pensions and gratuities, cost of services rendered by other Government departments, and expenses in connexion with the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Working expenditure amounted to £128,862 and gross receipts to £180,005.

Passenger journeys in the year were 449,513, an increase of 72,390 over the previous year, and the tonnage carried was 71,628 tons against 59,938 in 1934.

	1913.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Receipts per train mile	9 6·11	11 7·13	10 10·71	8 5·39	8 10·93	8 7·88	8 11·03	9 7·
Working expenses per train mile	5 1·09*	10 4·34	11 4·17	8 9·48	8 3·86	8 1·98	7 8·82	6 10·
Passengers carried	438,388	367,602	258,834	252,472	408,149	373,161	377,123	449,5
Tonnage carried	62,084	75,473	70,949	61,859	66,024	58,866	59,938	71,6

* Exclusive of pensions, gratuities, etc.

The rolling stock in use during the year consisted of 39 locomotives, 70 coaching vehicles and 304 goods vehicles.

Motor Bus Service.

The motor bus service is under the direction of the General Manager of the Railway. This service runs on two routes, viz., route 1 to Hill Station European Settlement through Wilberforce, a distance of five miles, and route 2 to Lumley Beach, where there is an excellent golf links, $6\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Freetown, on the western sea-board of the peninsula of Sierra Leone. The fleet in 1935 consisted of five passenger vehicles and two goods lorries.

The total number of passengers carried was 232,090 and the gross receipts amounted to £2,937.

The staff employed was :—

European	...	...	...	...	...	1
Africans	...	...	...	...	...	19
Total	...	...	...	...	...	20

Postal Business.

There was considerable increase in postal business during 1935. Postal business was conducted from 12 post offices and 56 postal agencies; money-order business from 23 and postal-order business from 53 offices.

The total revenue collected was £22,331 as against a sum of £18,652 in the previous year. Of this amount £15,216 was derived from direct postal revenue, £5,457 from Customs duty on parcels, and £1,658 from the sale of stamps for Inland Revenue purposes.

As regards correspondence, the estimated number of articles of all kinds dealt with during the year was 2,003,800 as compared with 1,803,800 in 1934. Included therein are 79,700 registered articles. Money-order transactions increased from 3,541 (value £21,443) in 1934 to 3,728 (value £20,921) in 1935.

The total number and value of postal-orders issued during the year was 50,381 and £30,748, and the number and value of postal-orders paid was 41,523 and £26,110 as compared with the figures for the previous year which were—orders issued 43,948, value £25,121; orders paid 37,459, value £22,294.

The parcel post transactions showed an increase, 32,180 parcels being handled as against 28,334 the previous year.

In the cash-on-delivery parcels service (with Great Britain only) 8,512 parcels were received (value £14,451) as compared with 6,164 (value £10,500) in 1934.

Telegraph System.

The internal telegraph system is maintained by the railway. The main system runs from Freetown to Pendembu (227½ miles from Freetown) with transmitting stations at Bauya and Bo; this system is connected up by branches with most of the district headquarters in the Protectorate. The total mileage is 1,099¼, plus the railway traffic control line of 455 miles.

Telephones.

The only service is that in Freetown and district, maintained by the Railway Department. The total mileage is 392¾.

Broadcast Relay Service.

The Broadcast Service was inaugurated in May 1934, and is owned and controlled by Government.

It is a relay service which operates on the rediffusion principle. The equipment, consisting of rectifying apparatus, two short-wave battery operated receivers and five power amplifiers, together with studio and gramophone equipment, is of the latest design. The power amplifiers are capable of giving a combined undistorted output of 300 watts.

Directional reflector aerials are used and are erected 500 ft. above sea level.

The station relays as a standard programme the whole of Transmissions II and IV in the Empire programme from Daventry on wavelengths of 13, 16, 19, 25 and 31 metres. All transmissions from Daventry are receivable at good signal strength in normal circumstances.

The number of subscribers up to date is over 720.

Cables and Wireless.

Cable and Wireless Limited maintain a cable office and a low-power wireless station in Freetown; the latter is used mainly for communicating with shipping.

Increase in the knowledge of wireless telegraphy and recent improvement in the manufacture of wireless installations of moderate cost have led to considerable numbers of applications on the part of private individuals for licences under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1924, and the holders of such licences have little difficulty in picking up any station in Europe and America broadcasting on suitable short-wavelengths.

Shipping.

There was an increase of 69 in the number of steam and motor vessels entering in the Colony during the year and in tonnage 262,061. Of a total of 2,397,361 tons entered, 59.77 per cent. was British, 11.36 German, 5.44 Italian, 6.25 French and 7.02 American.

The following shipping lines call regularly at Freetown on their way to or from other West African ports :—

<i>Line.</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>Frequency of calls.</i>
American West African Line.	New York	2 monthly (average) with passengers and general cargo.
Compania Transmediterranea.	Barcelona, Valencia, Madrid and Cadiz.	Passengers monthly.
Elder Dempster Lines, Ltd.	United Kingdom coastal ports.	Passengers fortnightly. Cargo frequently.
Do. do.	Continental ports	Cargo every 3 weeks.
Do. do.	Canada	Monthly.
Fabre-Fraissinet	Marseilles	"
Holland West African Lijn.	Hamburg, Amsterdam, Le Havre and coast ports up to Spanish Guinea.	Passengers and cargo—monthly each.
Navigazione Libera Trestina (Italian).	Genoa and coast ports	Cargo—monthly.
Woermann Linie	Hamburg, Southampton and continental ports, Hamburg and continental ports.	Passenger—fortnightly. Cargo—fortnightly.
United Africa Co., Ltd.	Liverpool and coast ports.	Passengers and cargo—twice monthly.
Société Navele de l'Ouest and Chargeurs Réunis.	Marseilles and coast ports.	Passengers and cargo—monthly.
L'Equatoriale (Italian)	Genoa and coast ports	Cargo—monthly.
Compania Navierra Amaya (Spanish).	Continental and African ports.	One in 2 months.

The lower reaches of all the rivers of Sierra Leone are navigable for boats and canoes, and a considerable traffic is carried on by these means. The most commonly used craft are open sailing boats with a carrying capacity of about 4 tons. During recent years motor launches have come into use and this form of water transport appears to be growing increasingly popular with the natives.

There are four ports of entry in the Colony—Freetown, Bonthe, Sulima, and Mano Salija.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

Banking facilities are afforded by the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas). The former is established at Freetown (local head office) with a branch at Bonthe (Sherbro) and agencies at the more important trading centres. Barclays Bank is established at Freetown, and has no branches or agencies.

Both banks afford their customers savings bank facilities. In addition there is the Government (Post Office) Savings Bank, controlled from Freetown, with nineteen agencies throughout the Colony and Protectorate. The balance standing to the credit of depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank on 31st December, 1935, was £71,355.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks. The absence of realizable security and direct ownership properly registered precludes the possibility of the introduction of the former. The co-operative movement has not yet been introduced.

Currency.

The coins current in Sierra Leone are :—

United Kingdom gold, silver, and bronze coins ;

West African silver coins, value 2s., 1s., 6d., 3d. ;

West African alloy coins value of the same denominations ; and

West African nickel-bronze coins of the value of 1d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

The United Kingdom coins have been superseded by the West African coins. The West African silver coins authorized by the Sierra Leone and Gambia Coinage Order, 1913, and introduced in that year are being withdrawn from circulation. Other West African coins of mixed metals of the same denominations and of the same weights, and authorised by His Majesty's Order in Council of February 1920, were introduced in July 1920, to replace the silver coins.

Gold and silver coins are legal tender up to any amount and copper and nickel-bronze coins up to one shilling.

West African currency notes of the values £5, 20s., 10s., 2s., and 1s., were introduced in 1916 under the Currency Note Ordinance of that year. Currency notes of the value of 20s. and 10s. are now in circulation, the £5, 2s., and 1s. having been withdrawn. A new issue of the West African currency notes of 20s. and 10s. denomination was put into circulation on 1st July, 1928; the old issue notes are being withdrawn.

Weights and Measures.

There has been no addition to the standards and no new legislation relating to the inspection of weights and measures in the Colony.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During 1935 the Sanders Brook Canal was completed. The previous year's work had terminated at a point near the plant and tool store in the Public Works Department compound. The canal was extended approximately 830 feet to a point near the stone factory where it divided into two smaller channels, one channel turning South for a distance of approximately 113 feet and terminating at a small bridge near the crushery. The other channel proceeds East for a distance of approximately 616 feet and terminates at a catchment basin at the foot of the hill where the stream enters the valley.

A reinforced concrete bridge was constructed across the canal to give access to the laterite quarry.

New Passenger Jetty.—The erection of the new passenger jetty was commenced on the 28th September and by the end of the year the first two rows of the piles had been driven and the top bracing bolted in position. The steel trough flooring was laid to the first bay only as, owing to the design of the structure, the beams and troughing could only be laid temporarily for the second bay.

New Hospital, Moyamba.—During the first half of the year a new hospital was constructed at Moyamba on the site of the existing hospital buildings. The lay-out consisted of an out-patients block comprising a consulting room, dispensary, store and operating theatre and a ward block providing accommodation for eight male and four female patients with necessary sanitation and ablution annexes.

The buildings were constructed in concrete blocks with corrugated asbestos roofing and the design is such that little fear of damage due to the ingress of termites need be apprehended.

The hospital shows evidence of good workmanship and neat finish, and credit is due to Mr. W. H. Brown, the European Foreman of Works in charge, for completing the work at such an exceptionally low cost.

Rice Mill.—Towards the end of the year work was commenced on the construction of a rice mill at Harbour Works, Cline Town, in connexion with the development of the rice industry. The work comprised the erection of a mill, rice store, drying ground and seeping tanks, a motor drive approach and a footpath to the foreshore. The buildings are constructed in timber framing sheeted with galvanized corrugated iron, standing on concrete dwarf walls provided with a zinc anti-termite course.

At the end of the year the drying ground, drive and footpath were completed, the store framed up and practically sheeted, and the mill building in frame.

Electric Light and Power.

An electric light and power scheme put into service in April, 1928, is in operation by Government in Freetown. High tension alternating current is generated by Diesel engines and distributed at British standard voltage and periodicity. Charges to consumers are 1s. per unit for lighting, with a favourable decreasing rate of charge to users of domestic appliances, and 4d. per unit for power. In certain cases special tariffs have been approved for other than private consumers, each having a favourable decreasing rate of charge in a manner similar to that for users of domestic appliances. Such special tariffs are based upon the various different average consumptions of current of each consumer.

There is a flat-rate charge for consumers with only three or four lights ranging from 10s. to 19s. per month. The distribution scheme covers a wide area and building sites and power are available for industrial development.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Courts of Justice.

The West African Court of Appeal.—This Court has an appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal matters, in respect of certain decisions of the Supreme Court of the Colony, and of the Circuit Court of the Protectorate. The Judges of the Court are the Judges of the Supreme Courts of the Gold Coast, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the Gambia Colony, and the Judges of the High Court of the Protectorate of Nigeria.

The Court sits periodically at Freetown for the hearing of appeals arising in Sierra Leone and the Gambia.

Courts of the Colony.—The following Courts have jurisdiction in the Colony :—

(i) *The Supreme Court (Ordinance No. 39 of 1932).*

(a) The Court consists of a Chief Justice and Puisne Judge, and also of the Chief Justice and every Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, the Chief Justice and every Judge of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, and the Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony of the Gambia.

(b) In its ordinary jurisdiction the Court has all the powers of the High Court of Justice in England, except the Admiralty jurisdiction.

(c) The Court has also a summary jurisdiction in civil causes similar to that of the County Courts in England.

(d) The Court is also a Court of Appeal from any decision, civil or criminal of a Magistrate or District Commissioner.

(ii) *Magistrates' Courts (Cap. 118).*

There are certain Judicial Districts in each of which is established a Magistrate's Court for the summary trial of criminal causes and with power to commit persons for trial before the Supreme Court. These Courts have also jurisdiction in various quasi-criminal causes, which is conferred upon them by sundry Ordinances. Each Court is presided over by a Magistrate or District Commissioner or by two Justices of the Peace.

(iii) *Courts of Requests (Cap. 43).*

These are courts for the trial of civil causes in which the amount involved does not exceed a sum fixed by the Ordinance. There is one Court for each Judicial District. Each Court is presided over by a Magistrate or District Commissioner who in this capacity is styled "Judge of the Court of Requests", or by two Commissioners.

Courts of the Protectorate.—The Courts of Law of the Protectorate are as follows :—

(i) *The Circuit Court (Ordinance No. 40 of 1932).*

(a) This Court is constituted by the Chief Justice or Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony, each of whom, when sitting in this Court, is styled "the Judge of the Circuit Court".

(b) With very few exceptions the Court has the same criminal and civil jurisdiction in the Protectorate as the Supreme Court has in the Colony. Divorce and matrimonial causes are, however, specially withdrawn from its jurisdiction.

(c) The Court also hears appeals from decisions of District Commissioners in both criminal and civil causes.

(ii) *Courts of District Commissioners (Ordinance No. 40 of 1932).*

(a) In each district there is a Court constituted by the District Commissioner and known as "the Court of the District Commissioner" or "The District Court".

A Provisional Commissioner, who is in charge of a group of districts known as a Province, has the same jurisdiction as a District Commissioner in each of those districts. (Ordinance No. 32 of 1933.)

An Assistant District Commissioner has the same jurisdiction as a District Commissioner in the district in which he is stationed, if appointed by the District Commissioner to exercise it. (Ordinance No. 32 of 1933.)

(b) The criminal jurisdiction of these Courts is practically the same as that of the Magistrates' Courts in the Colony. They can commit persons for trial before the Circuit Court, or, in very rare cases, before the Supreme Court of the Colony. They also possess a civil jurisdiction in most cases up to £50.

(iii) *Courts of Native Chiefs (Ordinance No. 40 of 1932).*

The Courts are composed of native chiefs and have a limited civil and criminal jurisdiction in cases arising exclusively between natives of the Protectorate, other than persons employed in the Government service. They are subject in all respects to the supervision of the District Commissioner who can amend, vary or set aside any of their decisions or sentences.

(iv) *Combined Courts (Ordinance No. 40 of 1932).*

In certain chiefdoms where there is a considerable number of non-natives settled or residing, the Paramount Chief and a non-native appointed by the District Commissioner, subject to confirmation by the Governor, sit as "Joint Judges" to decide petty civil cases arising between non-natives and natives. The orders of this Court may be enforced by the District Commissioner who can review its decision to all cases.

Criminal Cases tried in the Police Magistrate's Court, Freetown, in 1935.

Offences.	Cases reported.	Persons arrested.	Persons convicted.	Persons discharged.	for trial in the Supreme Court.	Committed
Assault and Battery ...	104	129	97	30	2	
Harbour offences ...	47	68	65	3	—	
Stowaways ...	16	14	9	5	—	
Customs offences ...	45	53	52	1	—	
Housebreaking ...	17	27	10	3	14	
Burglary... ...	15	12	5	3	4	
Larceny	438	506	374	129	3	
Larceny from Ship ...	13	16	13	3	—	
Public Health offences...	64	67	65	2	—	
Shop breaking ...	16	—	—	—	—	
Larceny from a house ...	75	77	60	15	2	
Breach of Immigration Restriction Law ...	5	8	2	6	—	
Selling Palm Wine without Licence ...	21	41	39	2	—	
Disorderly conduct ...	70	127	110	17	—	
Fighting	24	49	45	4	—	
Drunk	21	21	21	—	—	
Wounding	5	10	4	2	4	
TOTALS	996	1,225.	971	225	29	

Juvenile Offenders.

Larceny	25	25	18*	7	—
Assault and Battery ...	—	—	—	—	—
Throwing Stones ...	—	—	—	—	—
Committing Nuisance ...	3	3	3	—	—
TOTALS	28	28	21	7	—

Return of Criminal Cases tried in the Circuit Court during the year 1935.

District.	Number of persons prosecuted.	Number of persons imprisoned.	Number of persons fined or otherwise	Number of persons condemned.	Number of persons discharged. punished.	Number
						of persons
Port Loko ...	5	5	—	—	—	—
Bombali ...	5	1	1	—	—	3
Kambia ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Karene ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bo ...	2	—	—	—	—	2
Kailahun ...	4	2	—	—	—	2
Kenema ...	8	2	—	1	—	5
Moyamba ...	7	5	—	—	—	2
Pujehun ...	3	1	1	—	—	1
Bonthe ...	1	—	—	—	1	—
Koinadugu ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kono ...	1	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	37	17	2	2	—	16

Police.

During the year 1935, the strength of the Police Force was increased by one Assistant Commissioner of Police.

Prisons.

There are now 11 prisons administered by the Prisons Department, which have been established as follows:—

Colony.—Freetown, convict and local; Bonthe, local.

Protectorate.—Northern Province, local prisons; Kambia, Port Loko, Kabala, Makeni, Batkanu.

Southern Province, local prisons; Kenema, Moyamba, Pujehun, Masanki.

The number of persons committed to the central prison at Freetown during the years 1934 and 1935 was as follows:—

	1934.	1935.
Males	831	933
Females	16	12
Juvenile adults	—	4
Juvenile offenders	25	14

The total daily average number in custody was:—

1934.	1935.
259	243

* Juvenile Adults, persons between the ages of 16 years and 19 years=14
Juvenile Offenders, persons below the age of 16 years=4.

The number of persons committed to the local prisons of the Colony and Protectorate during the years 1934 and 1935 was :—

		1934.	1935.
Males	...	1,094	1,050
Females	...	4	5

The daily average number in custody was 143 as against 134 in 1934.

Health.—The general health of the prisoners was good. The total number of deaths at all prisons was five, compared with two in 1934.

Industrial.—Short-sentence prisoners were employed in the kitchen garden, and on general labouring, quarrying stone, sanitary work and planting fruit trees on Government land. Long-sentence prisoners were engaged in the usual industries which consist of rice-milling, tailoring, tarpaulin and mattress making, bread-making and carpentry.

XIV—LEGISLATION.

The more important Ordinances enacted during 1935 were :—

The Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, 1935,

The Infanticide Ordinance, 1935,

The Processions Ordinance, 1935,

The Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Ordinance, 1935,

The Sierra Leone Naval Volunteer Force Ordinance, 1935,

The Diamond Agreements and Licence (Ratification) Ordinance, 1935,

The Diamond Industry Profit Tax Ordinance, 1935,

The Appeals from Magistrates Ordinance, 1935.

Of these Ordinances the *Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance*, 1935, is based on an English Institute of similar title. It provides in general that all causes of action, subject to a few exceptions, subsisting against or vested in a dead person are to survive against or for the benefit of his estate. The exceptions include actions which may be considered as purely personal matters and where the presence of the party liable is of the utmost importance. Briefly, the Ordinance abolishes to a very considerable extent the ancient legal doctrine *actio personalis moritur cum persona* which, although weakened by certain Acts of the Legislature and judicial decisions, was still regarded as productive of much injustice. Certain amendments of importance to the Fatal Accidents Acts are included. The Ordinance further empowers the Court to award interest on debts and damages for the whole or any part of the period between the date of the cause of the action and that of the judgment subject to certain exceptions.

The Infanticide Ordinance, 1935, brought the Laws of Sierra Leone into conformity with the laws of England in regard to women who are convicted of certain offences normally punishable with death by adopting the principles embodied in the Infanticide Act of 1922.

By the *Processions Ordinance*, 1935, processions in the Freetown Police District are prohibited except under a permit from the Commissioner of Police. The Ordinance does not apply to certain processions, such as marriage, funeral or scouts processions. The existing Road Traffic (Procession) Rules, 1926, which have proved inadequate are repealed. Power is given to the Governor in Council to extend the Ordinance to other portions of the Colony.

The principle of the *Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Ordinance*, 1935, is to secure, on a basis of reciprocity, the enforcement of judgments obtained in Sierra Leone in foreign countries. Part I applies also to British Dominions, Protectorates and Mandated territories, and to judgments obtained in the Courts of those territories, in the same manner as it applies to foreign countries and to judgments obtained in the Courts of those countries. This latter provision has involved the amendment of the existing Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Ordinance, 1924.

The Sierra Leone Naval Volunteer Force Ordinance, 1935, provides for the creation of a Naval Volunteer Force in Sierra Leone. A previous enactment which had never been brought into force, dealing with the same subject, is repealed.

The *Diamond Agreements and Licence (Ratification) Ordinance*, 1935, validates and confirms two agreements and a licence granted by the Government to the Sierra Leone Selection Trust Limited whereby the sole and exclusive right to explore for, produce, and market diamonds throughout the greater part of Sierra Leone was conferred upon the Company. Provision is made to safeguard the interests of all Companies or persons engaged in mining operations for minerals other than diamonds. The Ordinance also specifies the consideration granted to Government and regulates the operations of the Company.

The *Diamond Industry Profit Tax Ordinance*, 1935, provides for the imposition of a profits tax on any person or Company engaged in the production and sale of diamonds. The Ordinance follows the customary form and machinery is provided to deal with any dispute as to the amount of tax payable.

The *Appeals from Magistrates Ordinance*, 1935, brings the law relating to appeals from courts of summary jurisdiction in the Colony into line with legislation recently enacted in the other West African Colonies. It is made perfectly clear that the Crown may appeal in all cases. It is provided that every appeal shall be made in the form of a Petition in writing containing all the essential particulars of an appeal, including the grounds upon which the

appeal is brought. The Registrar of the Appeal Court is made responsible for the procedure preliminary to an appeal. Provision is introduced for the first time for appeals by way of case stated in points of law and permission is given in certain cases for a further appeal to the West African Court of Appeal.

The following are the more important subordinate legislative enactments which came into force during the year:—

The *Minerals (Export Prohibition) Order in Council*, 1935, prohibits the export of raw gold and diamonds except on a permit from the Chief Inspector of Mines. It further provides that raw gold can only be exported through a bank to an approved refinery.

The *Forestry (Fees and Royalties) Order in Council*, 1935, which reformulated the fees and royalties payable on timbers taken from forest reserves.

The *Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) (Adaptation) Order in Council*, 1935, adapted for the purposes of Sierra Leone the Order of His Majesty in Council enacted with reference to the action of the Italian Government in Abyssinia.

The *Minerals (Enclosed Areas) Rules*, 1935, gave the Sierra Leone Selection Trust Limited extended powers to facilitate its diamond mining operations.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial year closed on the 31st December 1935, showing the financial position of the Colony to be as follows:—

	£	£
Excess of Assets over Liabilities on 1st January, 1935	...	101,474
Revenue, 1935	...	678,978
Expenditure, 1935	...	585,574
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	...	93,404
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance of Assets over Liabilities on 31st December, 1935	...	194,878

The Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the past five years were:—

	Revenue.				Expenditure.	
	£				£	
1931	884,153	884,008	
1932	872,469	831,921	
1933	655,529	691,686	
1934	598,839	603,208	
1935	678,978	585,574	

Note.—The figures for 1932 and 1933 respectively include receipts and payments of £175,000 and £73,500 on account of a loan from the Colonial Development Fund to the Sierra Leone Development Company, Limited. The figure of Revenue for 1934 includes the sum of £29,928 transferred from the Reserve Fund.

The funded debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1935, was £1,718,259 against which the accumulated sinking funds, for its amortization, amounted to £423,501.

Assets.

The assets of the Colony as disclosed in the Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1935, amounted to £363,047 made up as follows :—

	£
Investments	172,684
Stores	15,333
Loans	26,389
Advances	38,145
Cash	110,496

Taxation.

The main heads of taxation from which revenue was derived in 1935 were :—

	£
Customs	441,178
Port, Harbour and Light	14,391
Licences and Internal Revenue	33,240
Taxes	92,936

Customs Tariff Imports.

Preferential duties were introduced in Sierra Leone in May, 1932, and quotas on imports of textiles from foreign countries were imposed as from the 16th June, 1934. There are no treaty obligations. The tariff is mainly specific. All edible provisions and articles ordinarily used for human consumption, not specifically mentioned in the tariff, however, pay an *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent. (Preferential) and 30 per cent. (General). On all goods, wares and merchandise not included in any item in the tariff an *ad valorem* duty is levied of 20 per cent. (Preferential) and 40 per cent. (General).

Some of the more important duties levied on imported goods are : cotton piece-goods—bleached, 1d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 2d. per sq. yd. (General); coloured and dyed, 1½d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 3d. per sq. yd. (General); grey $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 1½d. per sq. yd. (General) and printed, 1¼d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 2½d. per sq. yd. (General). Cotton yarn, 3d. per lb. (Preferential) and 6d. per lb. (General); fish, canned or otherwise preserved, 6s. 3d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 12s. 6d. per 100 lb. (General); fish—dried, salted, smoked or pickled, not in tins, jars or bottles, 2s. 6d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 5s. per 100 lb. (General); flour, 1s. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 2s. per 100 lb. (General); lard 8s. 4d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and

16s. 8d. per 100 lb. (General); matches, 1s. 6d. per gross of boxes (Preferential) and 3s. 6d. per gross of boxes (General); meat, canned or bottled, 10s. 5d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and £1 0s. 10d. per 100 lb. (General); milk, condensed or otherwise preserved, free (Preferential) and 4s. per 36 lb. (General); kerosene, $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 9d. per imperial gallon (General); motor spirit, $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 11d. per imperial gallon (General); edible oil, 6d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 1s. per imperial gallon (General); onions and potatoes, $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. (Preferential) and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. (General); table salt, 1s. 8d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 3s. 4d. per 100 lb. (General); coarse salt, 1s. 9d. per cwt. (Preferential) and 3s. 6d. per cwt. (General); artificial silk piece-goods, 2d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 6d. per sq. yd. (General); silk piece goods, 1s. 6d. per lb. (Preferential) and 4s. 6d. per lb. (General); toilet soap, 12s. 6d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and £1 5s. per 100 lb. (General); soap, other kinds, 7s. 6d. per cwt. (Preferential) and 15s. per cwt. (General).

On spirits (50 per cent. volume of alcohol) duty is levied at the rate of £1 13s. 6d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and £1 16s. per imperial gallon (General), and on wines (still), 3s. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 6s. per imperial gallon (General). Beer and ale, stout and porter pay at 1s. 6d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 3s. per imperial gallon (General).

Unmanufactured tobacco is subject to a duty of 1s. 2d. per lb. (Preferential) and 1s. 6d. per lb. (General); manufactured tobacco pays from 6s. 6d. per lb. (Preferential) to 8s. 3d. per lb. (General) and cigarettes from 1s. 6d. per 100 (Preferential) to 2s. 6d. per 100 (General). The duty leviable on lumber is 15s. per 1,000 superficial feet (Preferential) and £1 10s. per 1,000 superficial feet (General).

Export Duties.

The following exports are subject to duty:—palm kernels, £1 a ton; kola nuts, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a lb.

Royalties.

The following royalties are levied on minerals exported from the Colony: on chromite, 1s. 3d. per ton; on ilmenite, 1s. per ton; on platinum, 5 per cent. on the value; on crude gold, 9 per cent. on the ascertained value of the combined gold and silver content of the crude metal as shown by the refiner's certificate.

Drawbacks.

The usual provision is made for payment of drawback, 95 per cent. of duties paid on imported goods being allowed.

Wine, spirits, kerosene, tobacco, arms and ammunition and gunpowder are excluded from this benefit.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

Under a Stamp Duty Ordinance, stamp duties are levied on cheques, bills of exchange, deeds, legal documents, probates, etc. The aggregate collections in 1935 amounted to £901.

There are no Excise duties, but revenue is derived from Licences, as follows :—

Auctioneers, hawkers, spirits, store, wine and beer, petroleum, motor vehicles, dog and game licences, etc.

Pawnbroker, bicycle, showkeepers and hotel licences, etc., are levied by the Freetown City Council.

House Tax.

A house tax of five shillings per house is levied throughout the Protectorate and yields approximately £80,000 annually. The District Commissioners control the collections in the various chiefdoms, but the native chiefs are responsible and receive a remuneration of 5 per cent. on such collections. The assessment is made biennially or triennially by Assistant District Commissioners as occasion arises, aided by the Paramount Chiefs. House Tax in Freetown and Sherbro Judicial District is assessed on the value of the property and varies in different years. House Tax in the remainder of Colony villages is at a fixed rate of five shillings per house.

Poll Tax.

Under the Non-native Poll Tax Ordinance every non-native is required to pay an annual tax of £4.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Surveys.

Topographical Survey.—No funds were voted either for revision or further reproduction of the Sheets of the 1/62,500 survey of the Protectorate. This survey was commenced in 1925 and completed in 1930 but only 41 per cent. of the Sheets have been published.

Numerous sun-print copies of the unpublished Sheets were supplied to Government Departments and Mining Companies.

Geological Survey.—Detailed geological mapping of the gold and diamond areas was continued during the year, and a reconnaissance traverse was carried out in the Karene and Koinadugu Districts. Owing to shortage of European staff the Officer-in-charge of the Geological Survey had to take charge of the office of the Mines Section on several occasions during the year.

Cadastral Branch.—Seventy-three mining surveys were executed during the year, the revenue derived therefrom amounting to £2,007. Two hundred and ninety-three mining applications were received,

the plans examined and reports rendered. The Drawing Office prepared 403 plans and tracings and 210 sunprints. In addition 115 hand-tinted sunprints were supplied to Government Departments and prospectors.

Lands Branch.—All the usual business in connexion with grants, acquisitions, valuations, leases, preparation of tenancy agreements, collection of rents, beaconing of Crown Lands, etc., has been carried out.

General.—The value of maps supplied to Government Departments during the year amounted to £59. Sale of maps to the Public realised £98.

Imperial Institute—Public Exhibition Galleries.

The Sierra Leone Court was closed for redecoration during the latter half of 1935. It has been transferred to a site nearer the west end of the Gallery in order to allow of a more geographical arrangement of the Courts in the Exhibition Galleries.

New exhibits received during the year comprise samples of iron ore from the Marampa iron mines, together with a series of photographs illustrating the mining, transporting, and loading of iron ore at Marampa and Pepel.

A sample of piassava from the inland swamps of the Protectorate was examined as to quality and value as compared with Prime Sherbro, Sulima and Opobo piassavas. The sample was of mixed character, but it possessed better resiliency and strength than piassava of the Sherbro and Sulima types, and was much darker. It was considered to be of saleable quality and was valued at a price above that of Sulima piassava.

An enquirer interested in the canning industry was furnished with observations in connection with a proposal to establish a fruit canning industry in Sierra Leone. Another enquirer who was investigating native diets and the chemical composition of West African food products in relation to the effects of these foods on the health and habits of the natives, was also furnished with information on the subject.

Statements dealing with the characters, properties and uses, and the results of mechanical tests were prepared in regard to the utilization of certain Sierra Leone timbers for local construction work. Observations were also furnished to the Colonial Office regarding the development of an export trade in bees-wax. Information was given to various enquirers regarding iron ore, platiniferous ilmenite and gold.

The statistical charts and graphs and printed descriptive labels have been revised and brought up to date.

Lectures on Sierra Leone and its products have been given to school parties by the Guide Lecturers and specimens of Sierra Leone products have been distributed to school museums in the Provinces.

The public attendance in the Galleries during the year was 626,246, including 2,871 conducted parties from schools.

APPENDIX

List of certain Publications obtainable from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W.1. and from the Government Printer, George Street, Freetown.

	<i>Revised Rates for Gazettes and Legislation.</i>							£	s.	d.
	Annual Subscription, inland	1	5	0					
<i>Royal Gazette</i> , inclusive of all Supplements ; Annual Subscription, Overseas			1	10	0				
	<i>For current or previous year.</i>							<i>For any prior year.</i>		
	s.	d.	s.
Royal Gazette, single copies, inclusive of "Special Supplements" only...	6		1 0
Trade Supplement (postage 1d. extra)	3		6
Legislative Supplements, or separate copies of Ordinances, Rules, &c., not exceeding—										
8 pages	4		8
9-16 „	6		1 0
17-32 „	9		1 6
33-48 „	1 3		2 6
49-64 „	1 6		3 0
65-96 „	2 0		4 0
Exceeding 96 pages	2 6		5 0

Including postage.

The foregoing rates will apply to all Supplements or Legislation already in stock, regardless of any price printed thereon.

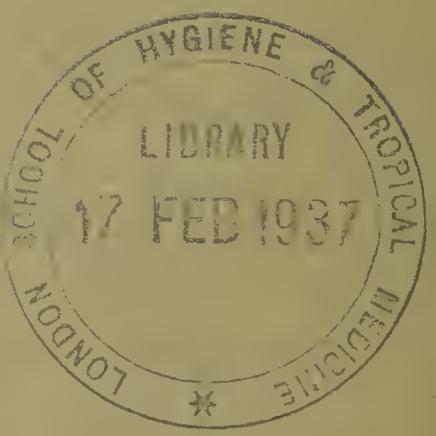
		Price.	Postage.
		£ s. d.	s. d.
Blue Book, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928 each	... .	... .	12 6 1 4
Blue Book, 1929, 1930, 1933, 1934 each	... .	... .	12 6 1 2
Governor's Address on the Estimates, 1935-36	... .	... .	6 . 1
Legislative Council Debates—No. 1 of any year	... .	... .	1 6 2½
Legislative Council Debates—Subsequent numbers, each	... .	... .	6 . 2
Sierra Leone Studies (abridged edition of Nos. 1, 2, 3)	... .	... .	1 0 2
Sierra Leone Studies, Nos. 7-18, each	... .	... .	1 0 2
Handbook of the Temne Language	... .	... .	5 0 3½
Handbook of the Sherbro Language	... .	... .	10 6 3
Handbook on the Tse-tse Fly (Austen)	... .	... .	5 0 6
Bibliography of Sierra Leone, by Sir H. C. Luke, Kt.	... .	... .	8 6 4
Beri-beri and the Freetown Prison	... .	... .	10 6 6
The Birds of Tropical West Africa, Vol. 1, by D. A. Bannerman	... .	1 2 6	1 0

			<i>Price.</i>	<i>Postage.</i>
			£ s. d.	s. d.
Report on Potential Rice Lands, by R. R. Glanville	...	...	2 6	1½
Census Report, 1931	...	...	5 0	6
Mineral Ordinance Revised, 1935	...	...	7 6	6
Tide Table, 1936	...	...	4	1
Sierra Leone Country Cloths, by Dr. M. C. F. Easmon	...	...	1 0	2
Introduction to Geography of Sierra Leone	...	...	1 4	2
History of Royal West African Frontier Force, by Lieut. R. P. M. Davis	...	...	7 6	2½
A Limba-English and English-Limba Dictionary, by Mary Lane Clarke	...	...	5 0	4
Crook's History of the Colony of Sierra Leone, Western Africa...			1 6	4
Specimen of Languages, by N. W. Thomas	...	...	4 0	3
Report of the Native Administration to the Protectorate of Sierra Leone by Mr. J. S. Fenton, O.B.E.	...	...	1 6	1
Customs Trade Report, 1935	...	...	5 0	5

SIERRA LEONE SURVEY



NOTE.—The Headquarters of the Northern Province have now been transferred from Magburaka to Freetown.



Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 11d.).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5s. (5s. 9d.).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4s. (4s. 4d.).
Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3d. (3½d.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).
Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 7d.).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2s. 6d. (2s. 9d.).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4s. 6d. (4s. 10d.).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4s. 6d. (4s. 10d.).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1s. (1s. 2d.).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2s. (2s. 3d.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.

KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND,
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN. BRITISH CAMEROONS.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY. BRITISH TOGOLAND.

*Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices obtainable from
the Sale Offices of*

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.